

Filed for intro on 02/02/95
House Bill _____
By _____

Senate No. SB0961
By Haynes

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, Chapter 3,
relative to commissioning certain employees of
metropolitan government as law enforcement officers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, Chapter 3, Part 3, is amended by
adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 7-3-3____.

(a) Employees of metropolitan government who are classified as “park rangers” may be commissioned as law enforcement officers by the director of the department of parks and recreation, or other appropriate executive officer; provided however, such park rangers must have first successfully completed the training requirements of the Jerry F. Agee Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy in order to qualify for a law enforcement commission and must comply, on an annual basis, with all applicable continuing education and in-service training requirements established by the metropolitan government. When so commissioned, park rangers shall have all of the police powers necessary to enforce all state and metropolitan government laws, rules and regulations within

the jurisdiction of the metropolitan government. Such commissioned park rangers shall have all police powers necessary to apprehend and arrest any person within the jurisdiction of the metropolitan government, for any violation of state or metropolitan government law, rule or regulation committed within the jurisdiction of the metropolitan government. Commissioned park rangers shall enforce such laws, rules and regulations and maintain order for the protection of metropolitan government property and the public welfare. Commissioned park rangers shall have the right to carry firearms or other arms while on duty as commissioned law enforcement officers of the metropolitan government. It shall be the responsibility of the department of parks and recreation, or other appropriate executive department, to assure that commissioned park rangers pursue their law enforcement duties with the utmost awareness and care, and not to the detriment of their primary responsibilities as park rangers.

(b) The department of parks and recreation, or other appropriate executive department, shall establish standards of training and qualification for the commissioning of park rangers employed by the metropolitan government as law enforcement officers, and for continuing education and in-service training of such commissioned park rangers. Training standards shall be consistent with those established by a recognized agency, such as the Tennessee peace officer standards and training commission, the Jerry F. Agee Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy or the department of interior, national park service.

SECTION 2. For the purpose of promulgating rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect July 1, 1995, the public welfare requiring it.

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